

## LAST OF LON WILLIAMS.

A Notorious Renegade Hanged by a Band of Cowboys in Montana.

The Career of a Robber and Murderer Who Terrorized Wisconsin.

Some of the Most Daring Deeds of One of the Worst Desperadoes of the West.

A report reaches here, says an Eau Claire, Wis., despatch, that one Alonzo Williams, a horse thief, border desperado and general all-around bad man, was recently lynched in Montana. A ranch was raided, several horses stolen, the thief captured by a party of cowboys and hanged with the customary formality. There is no doubt that the victim was the Lon Williams who, with his brother Edward, terrorized the western part of Wisconsin from 1876 to 1882, and for whose arrest rewards aggregating several thousand dollars are still unpaid. Since the summer of 1882, when he was driven from the state like a hunted wolf, pursued by hundreds of armed men determined on his death, Lon Williams's whereabouts has been a mystery. He was tracked for months by scores of men, the hunt extending half way to the Pacific and south to Indian territory and Texas, but he was too cunning for his pursuers and finally shook them off. At the time of his flight it was supposed the fugitive found a haven in the Cherokee Nation, but nothing positive to this effect could be learned.

Lon and Ed Williams were the most desperate criminals that ever made their homes in Wisconsin. Holzhay, the train robber and highwayman who led the Michigan authorities such a lively dance two weeks ago, was to them what the boy who sails a toy boat on a duck pond is to the salt water sailor. He was a desperado by chance; they by profession. The Williams boys possessed great physical strength and measureless endurance. They were cool headed, nifty men, who had faced a thousand dangers in as many forms. Both were crack shots with rifle and pistol, a deer bounding through a tangled "blazing" being a fair mark for either at 500 yards. With a rifle or pistol they were sure of their aim at ordinary distances with the weapon held at the side, they deeming it a waste of energy to throw a gun to the shoulder under ordinary circumstances. Bred in ways of crime they were at once feared and hated by every law abiding resident of western Wisconsin. Their crimes were numberless and of the most daring kind, but they went unpunished. It was as much as a man's life was worth to raise his hand or voice against the desperadoes.

The Maxwell brothers, as the Williams boys were known before they came to Wisconsin, were born in western Missouri. Drifting into bad ways, they early became the associates of the James and Younger boys, and, it is said, at one time belonged to the notorious gangs headed by the former. They frequently boasted that they had taken part in many of the raids planned by Jesse James, and from evidence discovered later there is reason to believe that many of the crimes charged against the James brothers were actually perpetrated by the Maxwells. For more than a dozen years the Maxwells kept the authorities of Missouri, Illinois, Kansas and adjoining states on the jump. Then came the raid on Northfield, Minn. The Youngers were captured, three or four of their party shot dead, and Frank and Jesse James sent flying across the state to the Bad Lands of Dakota, whence they made their way to the old haunts further south. Missouri took the cue from Minnesota, and the state became too hot to hold men of the James class. It became necessary for the Maxwells to seek a new home. They hit upon Dunn county, this state, locating at the little town of Hersey. Here they passed for woodmen and hunters, going about heavily armed with rifles and revolvers. They were known as Lon and Ed Williams.

Shortly after going to Hersey, Lon Williams met a young lady with whom he fell in love. She was well educated, comely, and of ladylike manners. His affection was returned, and they were married. The Williams loved his wife with all the affection that he was capable of bestowing there is no doubt. He built a snug house, furnished it completely, abandoned his dissolute habits, gave up his wicked ways, and became a model husband. Ed was unchanged. He was ever ready with his gun, and few men quarreled with him. One day he was at Stillwater, Minn., and attempted to turn the principal street of the city into a rifle range. The police protested against his conduct, and he threatened to shoot the chief. Williams accidentally learned that he was wanted in McDonough county, Illinois, and he was hunted down. He served five years at Joliet. When his term expired he returned to Dunn county. In the mean time Lon's wife had died, and he readily fell back into his old life. Burglary after burglary was committed in the vicinity, and finally after the safe in the store of the St. Louis Lumber company at Stillwater was blown open and robbed it was decided to arrest the Williams boys.

On the evening of July 10, 1882, Sheriff Milton Coleman was notified that the Williams brothers had crossed the river in a skiff just above Menomonee. Accompanied by his brother Charles he set out to arrest the men. The Williams boys were armed as usual, while the Coleman brothers carried double-barreled shot guns loaded with buckshot, and revolvers. The officers proceeded to Durand, Pepin county, and passed up the street making inquiries. They finally stopped in front of a livery stable, and while standing there saw two men coming up the street answering to the description of the Williams brothers. The two men continued to approach leisurely, carrying their rifles at their sides. The officers had their guns ready, and when the suspected men arrived opposite them, cornered them, Milton saying: "You are my men." He did not finish the sentence. The Williams boys fired simultaneously, without raising their rifles. Both officers died instantly, neither of the men had life nor strength enough to press the trigger of his cocked and leveled gun. The desperadoes then fled.

The double murder created the most intense excitement, coming as it did on the heels of hundreds of unpunished crimes committed by the assassins. Scores of men joined in the hunt for the fugitives, but it was not until several months later that Ed Williams was captured. He stopped at a farm house in Nebraska for a meal. The farmer chanced to be a man who read the newspapers, and had the description of Williams in his mind. He secured assistance and surprised and overpowered his guest. Williams was returned to Durand and was taken into court for trial. While he sat in the dock, surrounded by court officers, lawyers and judge, a noose was placed around his neck, the line drawn over the shoulders of half a hundred brawny woodsmen and farmers, and he was jerked to the open air and to the top of a tall tree in front of the court house. A coroner's jury returned a verdict that he died from slipping on the court house steps, and this finding was never questioned.

An incident of the hunt for the Williams boys was the arrest at Milwaukee of Wilson Kuhl, a Peoria butcher, on suspicion of being Lon Williams. He was kept in jail several weeks, positively identified as Williams

by many men who knew the desperado, and was finally taken to Durand, where he narrowly escaped being lynched. Kuhl subsequently sued several Milwaukee county officials for \$25,000 damages. He secured a verdict for some \$4,000 or \$6,000.

From the day that Lon Williams walked into the woods after the killing of the Coleman brothers he was never seen or heard of by the Wisconsin authorities, although many times rumors have been received to the effect that he was living in the far northwest. If the man lynched in Montana is in fact the Wisconsin desperado, news of his death will be welcomed by many men living in the vicinity of his former home. He had sworn to kill fully a dozen of his own neighbors, and knowing him to be a man of his word, his sudden reappearance was dreaded.

The use of cologne for derangements of the liver has ruined many a fine constitution. Those who, for similar troubles, have tried Ayer's Pills testify to their efficiency in thoroughly remedying the malady, without injury to the system.

## People Who Fret.

"Care killed the cat," is a well known old saw. The force of it is in the fact that fret and worry will kill even an animal which is popularly said to have nine lives. Fretting and worrying may not kill you, but they will shorten your days, and what happiness is there in a life all cankered with care? But how avoid worry? Well, Americans travel more than any other people on the globe, and probably discomforts and delays in traveling cause us greater annoyance than all other sources of fretting combined. The great Burlington system reaches all the principal cities of the west, and if you always select it as your route, you can banish fretting forever, so smooth is its track, so sumptuous and luxurious are its cars, and so appetizing and well cooked are the meals served on its diners. For tickets, and any information about this "People's favorite," call on your local agent, or write to W. J. C. Kenyon, Gen. Pass. Agent, C. B. & N. R. R., St. Paul, Minn.

## Home Testimony.

HELENA, Oct. 7, 1887.

I was suffering from an unusually bad cough, my lungs were sore and congested, and I consulted one of the best physicians in Helena, whose prescriptions failed to relieve me. I became alarmed, and at the suggestion of a friend purchased a bottle of Aker's English Remedy for coughs, and after taking it according to directions was completely cured. I therefore cheerfully recommend it.

JACOB SWITZER.

I had a racking cough and inflamed throat and bought a bottle of Aker's English Remedy upon the recommendation of a friend, and was entirely cured by it. I consider it a never failing remedy for a cough.

Aker's English preparations are for sale in Helena only by R. S. Hale & Co.

Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

This medicine can always be depended upon, not only in the milder forms of summer complaint, but also for malignant dysentery and cholera infantum. The lives of many persons, and especially children, are saved by it each year. It is pleasant, safe and reliable. For sale by H. M. Pachen & Co.

## A Sure Cure for Piles.

Dr. Kirk's German Pile Ointment has cured Blind, Bleeding and Itching Piles when all other ointments have failed. It absorbs the tumors, allays the itching at once, acts as a poultice, gives instant relief. Dr. Kirk's German Pile Ointment is prepared only for piles and itching of the private parts, and nothing else. Every box is warranted. Sold by druggists or sent by mail on receipt of price, 60 cents and \$1 per box. Sold by R. S. Hale & Co., Helena.

## Harvest Excursion Rates.

The Northern Pacific railroad will sell harvest excursion tickets from Duluth, St. Paul and Minneapolis to Helena and Butte and return at one fare for the round trip (\$48.50). Tickets will be sold on Aug. 6 and 20, Sept. 10 and 24, and Oct. 8. Extreme limit thirty days. Stop-overs allowed within limit of ticket.

A. D. EDGAR, Gen'l Agt., Helena.  
CHAS. S. FEE, Gen'l P. & T. A., St. Paul.

## A Safe Investment

is one which is guaranteed to bring you satisfactory results, or in case of failure a return of purchase price. On this safe plan you can buy from our advertised druggist a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. It is guaranteed to bring relief in every case, when used for any affection of throat, lungs or chest, such as Consumption, Inflammation of Lungs, Asthma, Whooping Cough, etc., etc. It is pleasant and agreeable to the taste, perfectly safe and can always be depended upon. Trial bottles free at R. S. Hale & Co.'s drug store.

## The Verdict Unanimous.

W. D. Suit, druggist, Bismarck, Ind., testifies: "I can recommend electric bitters as the very best remedy. Every bottle sold has given relief in every case. One man took six bottles, and was cured of rheumatism of ten years' standing." Abraham Hare, druggist, Belleville, Ohio, affirms: "The best selling medicine I have ever handled in my twenty years' experience, is electric bitters." Thousands of others have added their testimony, so that the verdict is unanimous that electric bitters cure all diseases of the liver, kidneys or blood; only a half dollar a bottle at R. S. Hale & Co.'s drugstore.

## Cough! and Cough!! and Cough!!!

What in the world is the reason you will cough and keep coughing and still keep trying inferior medicines when Beggs' Cherry Cough Syrup will positively relieve your cough at once? This is no advertising scheme, but an actual fact and we guarantee it. For sale by all druggists. R. S. Hale & Co., wholesale and retail agents.

## Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by R. S. Hale & Co.

## Through to Chicago Without Change of Cars.

The Northern Pacific railroad, in connection with the Wisconsin Central line, is now running Pullman vestibule sleeping cars and free colonist sleeping cars between Montana points and Chicago without change. Dining cars are also run on all through trains. For rates, tickets and other information concerning the only through car line apply to the Northern Pacific office, corner Main and Grand streets, Helena.

A. D. EDGAR, General Agent.

Impurities of the blood often cause great annoyance at this season. Hood's Sarsaparilla purifies the blood, and cures all such affections.

## WE ARE SOLE AGENTS

### FOR THE

## FINEST RESIDENCE PROPERTY

### IN OR NEAR HELENA.

BROOKE ADDITION,  
BRADFORD ADDITION,  
HIGHLAND PARK,  
HOTEL and SEYMER PARKS, and  
WALLACE'S SUBDIVISION  
SYNDICATE ADDITION,

And have the Inside on ALL of the West Side Residence Property. If you want a LOT or a BLOCK, or a DOZEN LOTS, or a DOZEN BLOCKS, we can Accommodate you.

We have piped the AMES, BROOKE, BRADFORD and BELLEVUE additions for water, and are now Grading HAUSER BOULEVARD, which Will be the Finest Drive in the City, and the Shortest Road to the HOTEL BROADWATER.

Remember we are Headquarters for West Side Property, and call on or address

## PORTER, MUTH & COX

Gold Block, - - Helena.

## CONDENSED RAILWAY TIME TABLE

Montana Central.	
DEPART.	
St. Paul, Atlantic ex., St. Paul and east.	11:35 a. m.
Montana, Pacific ex., Butte and south.	4:00 p. m.
Helena and Butte ex., Butte and south.	8:15 a. m.
Marysville ex., Butte and south.	4:10 p. m.
Marysville ex., Butte and south.	7:30 a. m.
ARRIVE.	
St. Paul, Atlantic ex., Butte and south.	11:25 a. m.
Montana, Pacific ex., St. Paul and east.	3:45 p. m.
Helena and Butte ex., Butte and south.	6:30 p. m.
Marysville ex., Butte and south.	10:00 a. m.
Marysville ex., Butte and south.	6:40 p. m.
Northern Pacific.	
ARRIVE.	
Through westbound.	2:50 p. m.
Through eastbound.	7:30 p. m.
Butte, Missoula and Helena ex.	12:30 p. m.
Marysville passenger.	8:40 a. m.
Rimini accom., Mon., Wed. and Fri.	5:00 p. m.
Wickes and Boulder passenger.	10:05 a. m.
Marysville accommodation.	2:30 p. m.
DEPART.	
Through westbound.	3:45 p. m.
Through eastbound.	7:35 p. m.
Helena, Missoula and Butte ex.	7:45 a. m.
Marysville passenger.	3:30 p. m.
Rimini accom., Mon., Wed. and Fri.	7:15 a. m.
Wickes and Boulder passenger.	4:00 p. m.
Marysville accommodation.	10:00 a. m.
Union Pacific.	
DEPART.	
For all points east, south and west, via Montana Central and Butte.	4:00 p. m.
Via Northern Pacific and Garrison.	3:15 p. m.
ARRIVE.	
From all points east, south and west, via Butte and Montana Central.	11:25 a. m.
Via Garrison and Northern Pacific.	12:30 p. m.

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250 Miles THE SHORTEST ROUTE To Chicago

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THE ONLY THROUGH CAR ROUTE

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—AND—  
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It will be the greatest endeavor of the

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B. H. LANGLEY, Genl. Ticket Agt.

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Is the Fast Mail Short Line from St. Paul and Minneapolis via Le Crosse and Milwaukee to Chicago and all points in the Eastern States and Canada. It is the only line under one management between St. Paul and Chicago, and is the Finest Equipped Railway in the Northwest. It is the only line running Pullman Drawing-room Sleeping cars with luxurious smoking rooms, and the finest dining cars in the world, via the famous "River Bank Route," along the shores of Lake Pepin and the beautiful Mississippi river to Milwaukee and Chicago. Its trains connect with those of the Northern lines in the Grand Union depot at St. Paul. No change of cars of any class between St. Paul and Chicago. For through tickets, time tables, and full information, apply to any coupon ticket agent in the northwest.